

OLD  
ENGLISH BLOOD

*Boyling afresh in*

LEICESTERSHIRE MEN:

*Occasioned by the late barbarous inva-  
sion of the*

SCOTS.

*As appears by this Letter from my*  
LORD GREY,

To Major Generall  
SKIPPON.

---

LONDON,

Printed by H. for Giles Calvert, at the black spread-  
Eagle, at the West end of Pauls. 1648.





# OLD ENGLISH BLOOD

Boyling a fresh in  
LEICESTERSHIRE MEN:

Occasioned by the late barbarous  
*Invasion of the Scots.*

SIR,

**B**Ecause your ancient and well approved faithfulness speaks it selfe through the Kingdome; I have thought good to communicate the state of our affaires in this County unto you: which is thus.

When wee understood that our *proclaimed enemies* (the *Scots*) were drawing towards us, even to fall upon this Nation when it was weak; as hee did, on his Brother (and this *Esa* is *Edom*, red and bloody)

*bloody*) or as those brethren in *iniquity*, did upon the *Shechemites*, when they were sore. We thought all lay at stake, and the God of our mercies awakened us here, to see what might be done for our safety; wee tryed what volunteers would appear, which were not a few, that tendered themselves and their own horses, and those that wanted wee horsed upon those that were dissenters; insomuch that (by the blessing of God) wee have mounted a considerable number for so inconsiderable a County, and shall be able to march with a good strength very suddenly: and this course we have and doe propound with all earnestnes to all our neighbouring Counties; not waiting upon the customary way of pay and quarter, which would retard us, and such a work as this.

Wee had our men so willing to goe forth as if they should finde their *wages in their worke*; yea, though in the highest of their harvest, and this unseasonable weather; At our meeting a March being propounded, they cryed, ONE AND ALL.

Sir, Wee are prest forwards hereunto by the violent call of necessities surrounding us; nor can wee be blamed for neglecting some punctilioes, since selfe-safety, and our present preservation admit no delay.

It would rejoyce our hearts to see English blood stirring in the veignes of men at this juncture; professing

(3)

selling to your selfe that your honourable carriage in order to the good of this poor shattered Nation makes us to assure you, we can (through mercy) readily live and dye with you upon your pious and noble principles.

I have inclosed sent you a Copy of the last from *Lancashire*, whereby you may judge of the inhumane temper of the enemy, and the sad condition of our friends.

I wish every Tribe in *Israel* had this laid at their doors. Alas (*Sir*) did these men bring to us more Holines, Justice, Truth, and faithfulness, or rather did they not undermine that Gospel, they say they come to settle; wee would meet them with open armes and bended knees: But I wish their inviters hither doe not feel to their cost the ill consequence of the bargaine.

Sir, (with our worthy Neighbours in the Easterne Association, or any others like minded) wee resolve (by Gods help) rather to dye free English men, then to live *hewers of wood, and drawers of water* to base men whose mercies are Cruelties.

Our Horse appearing last Munday at our Rendezvouz, were neer three thousand, all of this County; who expressed much forwardnesse in this service, ambitiously desiring to be in action, waiting only upon a call, which we daily expect from our friends in the North, and for which wee

making our selves ready upon an hours warning.

My request unto your selfe, and all honest English hearts is, that you send us all the help you can through your prayers; and I beseech you to continue to improve your interest in Heaven and Earth to preserve a Kingdome, that must be saved against its will, for which God hath so immediately and even miraculously spoken from Heaven within three or 4 months last past, in curbing the malice of men, appearing in such desperate tumults every where : The Great Monuments whereof remain in these places, *viz. London, Norwich, South-Wales, Kent, Bury, Willoby, Kingston, Needs, Hereford, Shropshire, Stafford, Nottingham, Woodcraft, Scarborough, Tarmouth, Tinmouth, Cumberland, Bristol, Isle of weight, Chester, Exceter, North-wales and Cambridge, &c.*

Oh that men would see these wonders, and bow before the Lord that hath smiten them, and tremble before his foot-stool.

To whose grace I commend you, and all the faithfull with you. I remain

Sir,

August 24. 1648.

Yours really to

serve you

Thomas Grey.

## POST-SCRIPT.

*Sir,*

**S**Ince I degan to write the *Scots* are beaten, twelve thousand prisoners are taken; their Army broken: three thousand Horse of theirs where Duke *Hambleton* is, we are this morning pursuing with my forces, who bend towards the North: but are in desperate confusion, wee hope to give agood accompt of them.

*Yours,**Thomas Grey.*